



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 3711
PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 07409.0043

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Norihiko Nakahara et al.) Group Art Unit: 3711
)
Application No.: 10/537,609) Examiner: Alvin A. Hunter
)
Filed: June 3, 2005) Confirmation No.: 4952
)
For: Golf Club Head and Golf Club) Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY

In the Office Action of June 4, 2009, the Examiner finally rejected pending claims 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being obvious over Okada of record in view of a newly cited reference to Nishio (JP 2001-54594). Claims 10 and 11 were rejected over Okada in view of Nishio further in view of Mackay of record. The withdrawal of the rejection of the claims over Mackay in view of Satoh and Okada is appreciated. However, it is believed the pending claims are not obvious over the new grounds of rejection for the following reasons.

A feature of Applicants claimed invention as set forth in claims 7 and 9 is that the outer shell member or head body and the columnar neck member or hosel are "separate members" of the golf club head. As a result, the inner surface of the closed shaft insertion hole of the columnar neck member that forms a continuous surface with